

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COLUMBIA DIVISION

Michael Joyner	)	Civil Action No. 3:25-cv-00474-JDA-PJG
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
v.	)	<b>SCHEDULING ORDER</b>
	)	
Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	
	)	

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Pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Civil Rules of this Court, the following schedule is established for this case. Discovery may begin upon receipt of this order.

1. A conference of the parties pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) shall be held no later than **April 17, 2025**.<sup>1</sup> At conference the parties shall confer concerning all matters set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) and whether the schedule set forth in this order is appropriate and, if not, what modifications are necessary.<sup>2</sup>
2. No later than **May 01, 2025** the required initial disclosures under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) shall be made.<sup>3</sup>
3. No later than **May 01, 2025** the parties shall file a Rule 26(f) report in the form attached to this order. Parties are hereby notified that Local Civil Rule 26.03 (D.S.C.) lists additional queries to be answered in the Rule 26(f) Report.
4. Motions to join other parties and amend the pleadings (Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(1)) shall be filed no later than **June 27, 2025**.
5. Plaintiff(s) shall file and serve a document identifying by full name, address, and telephone number each person whom Plaintiff(s) expects to call as an expert at trial and certifying that

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<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff's counsel shall initiate the scheduling of the Rule 26(f) conference with all counsel known to plaintiff regardless of whether they have filed appearances.

<sup>2</sup> The parties shall also consider whether they wish to consent to trial before a United States Magistrate Judge. See attached Notice of Availability of United States Magistrate Judge.

<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1), the parties may, by stipulation, agree not to make some or all of the Rule 26(a)(1) initial disclosures. If such a stipulation is made, it shall be confirmed in writing between the parties. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 29 and Local Civil Rule 29.01 (D.S.C.).

a written report prepared and signed by the expert including all information required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B) has been disclosed to other parties by **July 25, 2025**.

6. Defendant(s) shall file and serve a document identifying by full name, address, and telephone number each person whom Defendant(s) expects to call as an expert at trial and certifying that a written report prepared and signed by the expert including all information required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B) has been disclosed to other parties by **August 22, 2025**.
7. Counsel shall file and serve affidavits of records custodian witnesses proposed to be presented by affidavit at trial no later than **August 22, 2025**. Objections to such affidavits must be made within fourteen (14) days after the service of the disclosure. (See Fed. R. Evid. 803(6), 902(11), or 902(12) and Local Civil Rule 16.02(D)(3) (D.S.C.)).
8. Discovery shall be completed no later than **October 17, 2025**. All discovery requests, including subpoenas *duces tecum*, shall be served in time for the responses thereto to be served by this date. *De bene esse* depositions must be completed by discovery deadline. No extension of this deadline will be permitted without leave of court. No motions relating to discovery shall be filed until counsel have consulted and attempted to resolve the matter as required by Local Civil Rule 7.02 (D.S.C.).
9. All other motions, except those to complete discovery, those nonwaivable motions made pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12, and those relating to the admissibility of evidence at trial, shall be filed on or before **October 31, 2025**. (Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(2)).
10. Mediation, pursuant to Local Civil Rules 16.04-16.12 (D.S.C.), shall be completed in this case on or before **December 29, 2025**. See attached form setting forth mediation requirements. At least **thirty (30) days prior to this mediation deadline**, counsel for each party shall file and serve a statement certifying that counsel has: (1) provided the party with a copy of the mediation requirements; (2) discussed the availability of mediation with the party; and (3) discussed the timing of mediation with opposing counsel.
11. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, this case is subject to being called for jury selection and trial after the expiration of the deadline in ¶ 9, OR thirty (30) days following the issuance of a Report and Recommendation on any motion described in ¶ 9 of this Order, whichever is later.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

March 28, 2025  
Columbia, South Carolina

s/Paige J. Gossett  
Paige J. Gossett  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Attachments:

- 1) Rule 26(f) Report Form.
- 2) Notice of Availability of United States Magistrate Judge.
- 3) Mediation Requirements Form.
- 4) Mediation Form.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COLUMBIA DIVISION

Michael Joyner,

)

C/A No. 3:25-cv-00474-JDA-PJG

)

)

Plaintiff,

)

)

**RULE 26(f) REPORT**

v.

)

)

Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC,

)

)

)

Defendant.

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The parties, having consulted pursuant to Rule 26(f), Fed. R. Civ. P., hereby report as follows (check one below):

\_\_\_\_\_ We agree that the schedule set forth in the Conference and Scheduling Order filed March 28, 2025 is appropriate for this case. **The parties' proposed discovery plan as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 26(f) and the information required by Local Civil Rule 26.03 will be separately filed by the parties.**

\_\_\_\_\_ We agree that the schedule set forth in the Conference and Scheduling Order filed March 28, 2025 requires modification as set forth in the proposed Consent Amended Scheduling Order which will be -e-mailed to chambers as required (use format of the Court's standard scheduling order). **The parties' proposed discovery plan as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 26(f) and the information required by Local Civil Rule 26.03 will be separately filed by the parties.**

\_\_\_\_\_ We are unable, after consultation, to agree on a schedule for this case. We, therefore, request a scheduling conference with the Court. **The parties' proposed discovery plan as required by 26(f) Fed. R. Civ. P., with disagreements noted, and the information required by Local Civil Rule 26.03 will be separately filed by the parties.**

(SIGNATURE PAGE ATTACHED)

## PLAINTIFF(S)

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*Signature of Plaintiff's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Plaintiff's Counsel  
and Party Represented*

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*Signature of Plaintiff's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Plaintiff's Counsel  
and Party Represented*

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*Signature of Plaintiff's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Plaintiff's Counsel  
and Party Represented*

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*Signature of Plaintiff's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Plaintiff's Counsel  
and Party Represented**Dated:* \_\_\_\_\_

## DEFENDANT(S)

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*Signature of Defendant's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Defendant's Counsel  
and Party Represented*

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*Signature of Defendant's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Defendant's Counsel  
and Party Represented*

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*Signature of Defendant's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Defendant's Counsel  
and Party Represented*

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*Signature of Defendant's Counsel*

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*Printed Name of Defendant's Counsel  
and Party Represented**Dated:* \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
for the  
District of South Carolina

Michael Joyner,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	Civil Action No. <u>3:25-cv-00474-JDA-PJG</u>
v.	)	
Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC,	)	
	)	
Defendant	)	

**NOTICE, CONSENT, AND REFERENCE OF A CIVIL ACTION TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

*Notice of a magistrate judge's availability.* A United States magistrate judge of this court is available to conduct all proceedings in this civil action (including a jury or nonjury trial) and to order the entry of a final judgment. The judgment may then be appealed directly to the United States court of appeals like any other judgment of this court. A magistrate judge may exercise this authority only if all parties voluntarily consent.

You may consent to have your case referred to a magistrate judge, or you may withhold your consent without adverse substantive consequences. The name of any party withholding consent will not be revealed to any judge who may otherwise be involved with your case.

Consent to a magistrate judge's authority. The following parties consent to have a United States magistrate judge conduct all proceedings in this case including trial, the entry of final judgment, and all post-trial proceedings.

Parties' printed names	Signatures of parties or attorneys	Dates
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Reference Order**

**IT IS ORDERED:** This case is referred to a United States magistrate judge to conduct all proceedings and order the entry of a final judgment in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 73.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Judge's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name and title

Note: Return this form to the clerk of court only if you are consenting to the exercise of jurisdiction by a United States magistrate judge. Do not return this form to a judge.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT ) **MEDIATION REQUIREMENTS**  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

Mediation is to be scheduled and completed in all cases, including those cases involving unrepresented parties. Mediation shall be completed by the date indicated in the scheduling order. Upon completion of the mediation, counsel shall advise the Court in writing only that the mediation has occurred, the date of the mediation, whether the case was settled in whole or in part, and whether a trial is required.

The parties should select a mediator consistent with Local Rule 16.06 D.S.C. A roster of certified mediators is available from the Clerk of Court or may be accessed under the Mediation/ADR heading at <http://www.scd.uscourts.gov/index.asp>.

All parties and their lead trial counsel, having authority to settle and to adjust pre-existing settlement authority if necessary, are required to attend the mediation in person unless excused by the Court for good cause shown. Insurer representatives with decision-making authority also are required to attend in person, unless excused by the Court, if their agreement would be necessary to achieve a settlement. Every person who is excused from attending in person must be available to participate by telephone, unless otherwise ordered. At the mediation, parties, their insurer representatives and their primary trial counsel should be prepared to participate in a mutual, good faith effort to negotiate a fair and reasonable settlement. All necessary discovery should be completed prior to mediation. Lack of discovery or settlement authority is no excuse for failure to appear and/or participate. See Local Rule 16.09 DSC. This form has been provided to all counsel of record and to all pro se parties. Counsel are responsible for notifying and ensuring the presence of parties and insurer representatives as described above. If case has been mediated previously, counsel shall notify the Court immediately in writing.

Communications made in connection with or during the mediation are confidential and protected by Federal Rule of Evidence 408 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 68. If a settlement is not reached at mediation, settlement discussions are neither admissible at trial nor to be disclosed to the presiding judge. See Local Rule 16.08(C) D.S.C.

If any reason exists why any party or counsel should not participate in this mediation, the Court is to be advised of these reasons in writing immediately.

Any questions concerning the selection of a mediator or the mediation process generally should be referred to the court's ADR Program Coordinator, Billie Goodman, at (803) 253-3491.

Paige J. Gossett  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**MEDIATION INITIATION FORM**

Case: Joyner v. Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC

C/A No. 3:25-cv-00474-JDA-PJG

Please check the applicable box to indicate the status of the above referenced case:

- ☐ case settled prior to or without mediation
- ☐ case dismissed by court or pending ruling on summary judgment motion
- ☐ case to proceed to trial
- ☐ case continued to next term

*OR*

- ☐ case will be or has been mediated (*complete the following information*):

Mediator Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mediator Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Mediation Scheduled to Occur *or* Date Mediation Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(*Printed name of counsel*)

For which party?: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(*Name of party counsel represents*)

Please fax completed form to Billie Goodman, ADR Program Coordinator @ 803-253-3591 or mail to 901 Richland Street, Columbia, SC 29201.